

2021.05.13. TRCA BOD meeting
Zoom - virtual meeting
Recorded and submitted by Marita Flam

Purpose: *Create a forum where issues impacting the Tarpon River neighborhood in particular and the City of Fort Lauderdale in general may be discussed; where ways to improve the quality of life in the Neighborhood and the City may be agreed upon; and where appropriate action may be taken to implement what has been agreed upon.*

Mission: *To improve the quality of life in the Tarpon River Neighborhood and the City of Fort Lauderdale*

Tarpon River Civic Association Board of Directors wants to share our commitment to equitable and respectful treatment of all individuals everywhere and specifically within the Tarpon River Civic Association Boundaries. We understand and acknowledge the problem of systemic racism and discriminatory practices across our country toward many different groups and particularly towards Black Americans. Additionally, we want to reaffirm our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive community in Tarpon River. We recognize we have much work to do and we are committed to cultivate space for ongoing conversations to ensure our community continues to thrive as a place where all feel welcome.

Welcome and Attendance

The meeting was held online and called to order at 7.01. p.m. by President Jay Shechtman. The following Board Members were present:

Jay Shechtman, President
Mike Stone, VP
Marita Flam, Secretary
Marie McLaughlin, Treasurer
Brucie Cummings, Director
Dave Rose, Director
Brian Engel, Director
Janet Scaper, Associate Board member

President Report

- April BOD Meeting minutes were approved by Dave Rose, seconded by Brian Engel.
- April General Meeting minutes were approved by Dave Rose, seconded by Brian Engel.
- TRCA will join Rio Vista and Downtown Civic Associations at the monthly summer series Sips, Sounds and Splats, held at South Side School Cultural center on Sunday, May 30th starting at 2 p.m.
- April Adopt-A-Street clean-up was a success. Thank you Mike for leading it.
- City Sidewalk meeting request has been sent to the City. We want to discuss requiring contractors to build sidewalks with new construction.

Treasurer Report

- As of today, the Checking account has a balance of \$8,148.44.
- The Money Market account has a balance of \$25,890.40.
- We have 193 paid members.

New Business

625 S. Andrew's Avenue project was introduced by the agent, Robert Lochrie. It includes 399 residential (flex) units, retail space and 529 parking spaces (1.32/unit). This Phase 1 building is 466 feet high, having 46 stories. It was on the May 11 DRC agenda. The building is planned to have wide sidewalks, covered arcade, shading oak trees, art installation and bike parking outside. The developer wanted to introduce the project to us while it is still early in the process. They want to make a good looking building. Have met all the codes and stayed in limits.

Questions and comments included;

Where is the garage entrance? On 6th Avenue, on western corner

Garbage and shared ride pick-up? Inside, approaching from 6th Ave

Restaurants would add value to our neighborhood

Apartment sizes? 750-1400 sf, including 3-bedroom ones, market prices

SW 6th St is an important artery. Should look as good as Andrews Ave, including garage

Easement to garage on SW 6th St should not slow down traffic

Traffic study should also be done on SW 6th St x SW 4th Ave

We need to look at the big picture and what's on pipeline

River Lofts on 5th project was discussed with 5 members of Moderno Developing Group. Changes have been submitted to DRC, signatures are still collected. Building height is reduced from 30 to 29. There are 352 rental units, average size 688 sf. Garage has 378 parking spots, more on the street. Seven floor pedestal will hold a narrow, slender tower for light and airflow. Pedestal is angled on the south side to make the pedestrian plaza bigger. Darker paving there will mimic the shape of New River. East side has a covered pedestrian promenade. Ride sharing will have a designated spot by 2 900 sf retail area. Developers stress how the building will improve a neighborhood that is now crime ridden with halfway houses. Doubling street lights and adding downwards landscape lights will add to security. New, younger residents will bring customers to existing brewery, coffee shop and restaurant. Business owners are happy.

Questions and comments included;

Where is garbage collection, deliveries and tenant move-in located? All inside

Traffic study? Done and submitted

Send us updated renderings where ride sharing will be located

Besides us just saying "too tall", shouldn't we have suggestions

Street level looks well done

Shorter, fat building would be worse. Less land = taller building

Every project is maxed out first, we should argue for lower code of density

Let's request City to tell us how much structure can the streets handle

Where is the 12 000 sf lot that was supposed to be donated?

Old Business/Discussion

- Laundertrail is a 11 mile bike trail starting from Snyder park. It follows the railroad to the New River, goes through Sailboat Bend and Sistrunk to Holiday park and Wilton Manors. We were shown the rendering of the trail.
- Tarpon River waterway clean-up is in the process of a consultant's order being reviewed and signed internally.
- Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations prioritizes for planning and design. Brucie and Jay represent the Tarpon River. Jay's recent question to Nancy has been about street flooding. City has a system update on it's 5 year plan.
- SW 6th Ave ROW overwhelming opinions were sent to the City.
- Whiddons might change their plans and turn the area into single family homes.

- Saturday, May 15th nearby neighborhood associations will host a food distribution event in Carter park.
- We are optimistically hoping for having Party In The Park in November.

Reminders

- General Meeting, May 27
- BOD Meeting, June 10

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9.09 p.m.